JOIN US FOR A COCKTAIL PARTY!

We’re gathering for drinks and apps after the Advisory Council meeting on February 13th, from 5-7:30 p.m. at An Unlikely Story in Plainville, MA. All are welcome—come visit the store, spend time with the NEIBA Board and AC members, and have some food and drink on us! Looking forward to seeing you there.

RSVP HERE

Going to Winter Institute? Join Laura Cummings and Beth for a NEIBA dinner on Friday night. Send an email to beth@neba.org and we’ll pick a place once we get a sense of the numbers.
Notes From the NEIBA Advisory Council

When the mommy book and the daddy book love each other very much ... OR Why books have no gender

By Gibran Graham, The Briar Patch, Bangor ME

Customer walks into the shop during the holidays. You greet them and offer to help find something for their 10-year-old granddaughter. This kid likes Harry Potter and Land of Stories. You know the perfect book and begin your handsell as the customer appears to be lighting up at the suggestion. After your pitch, they ask “I see there’s a boy on the cover. Do you have anything for a girl?”

“I’m looking for a good book for a boy.”

“But don’t you think Winnie-the-Pooh is too girly?”

“Need a present for my co-workers daughter. So fairies and princesses ... that’s what they like, right?”

No doubt, as a bookseller you could add a litany of similar quotes and experiences. And if you’re like me, it takes every customer service bone in your body NOT to throw down with a customer right there in the middle of the sales floor.

Perhaps we are keepers of a great secret, and maybe most of our customers already know, but books have no gender.

Yes of course many young readers know what they like. Maybe realistic fiction isn’t their jam. They might devour paranormal romance and nothing else. If all that precious little girl wants is glitter and Fancy Nancy, so be it. Genres and interests are matters of taste and comfort. They are great guides and parameters for helping find that next book. Whether the reader is a boy or a girl is not. Bookstores aren’t McDonald’s drive-thrus where we ask if you want the girl book or the boy book with your Happy Meal.

This is why, when posed with many of these question in the shop, my answer is, “That book is for everyone.” If you’re looking for a response to customers, give this one a try. Maybe add a “.... who likes ponies/dragons/mysteries/laughter/(insert subject here).” I guarantee it will calm some of the rage inside and feel pretty good.
opportunity for booksellers interested in exploring a career in the publishing side of the industry. Applications for the scholarship to attend the Denver Publishing Institute in Denver, CO will be accepted from December 15th, 2018 through February 27th, 2019.

This scholarship includes, tuition, housing and meal plan, and up to $2000 to cover travel and lost wages.

**Details**

**Independent Bookstore Day Tote Bags**

2019 Independent Bookstore Day tote bags designed by Jane Mount, author of Bibliophile, feature a selection of Bookstore Day titles from the past five years.

Bundle of 10 bags: $35 (includes shipping) Suggested retail price: $15
Deadline February 1

**ORDER HERE**

**Call for indies and the 100th anniversary of Children’s Book Week**

Dear indie friends,

We hope you’ll join in for the 100th anniversary April 29-May 5! CBC is already up to 175 indies already signed up, and 265 were in last year. We’d love to pass that number.

CBC has created the same cool stuff as last year -- and more: A beautiful 100th anniversary poster by Yuji Morales, activity pages in 15 languages, and 6 original bookmarks. Twelve famous illustrators are also creating a collaborative poster, to be revealed month by month.

All it takes is to designate a reading time, activity hour, and/or local author/illustrator event as an official Children’s Book Week event, and in return CBC will list you on their online national map, for publishers, the public and media to see – and send you as many of the posters as you’d like to hand out. It’s beautiful, folded, and with activities on the back.

Here’s the [registration form](#).

Thank you again, and please email carl.lennertz@cbcbooks.org with any questions.
# NEIBA Best Sellers

for the week ended **Sunday January 6, 2018**

Based on reporting from the independent booksellers of NEIBA and IndieBound

## HARDCOVER FICTION

1. *Where the Crawdads Sing*  
   Delia Owens, Putnam, $26, 9780735219090
2. *Kingdom of the Blind*  
   Louise Penny, Minotaur, $28.99, 9781250066206
3. *There There*  
   Tommy Orange, Knopf, $25.95, 9780525520375
4. *Unsheltered*  
   Barbara Kingsolver, Harper, $29.99, 9780062684561
5. *The Friend*  
   Sigrid Nunez, Riverhead, $25, 9780735219441
6. *Fire & Blood*  
   George R.R. Martin, Doug Wheatley (Illus.), Bantam, $35, 9781524796280
7. *Nine Perfect Strangers*  
   Liane Moriarty, Flatiron Books, $28.99, 9781250069825
8. *Transcription*  
   Kate Atkinson, Little Brown, $28, 9780316176637
9. *The Witch Elm*  
   Tana French, Viking, $28, 9780735224629
10. *Circe*  
    Madeline Miller, Little Brown, $27, 9780316556347
11. *Little Fires Everywhere*  
    Celeste Ng, Penguin Press, $27, 9780735224292
12. *The Overstory*  
    Richard Powers, Norton, $27.95, 9780393635522
13. *A Gentleman in Moscow*  
    Amor Towles, Viking, $27, 9780670026197
14. *The Travelling Cat Chronicles*  
    Hiro Arikawa, Berkley, $20, 9780451491336
15. *The Great Believers*  
    Rebecca Makkai, Viking, $27, 9780735223523

## HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. *Becoming*  
   Michelle Obama, Crown, $32.50, 9781524763138
2. Educated
Tara Westover, Random House, $28, 9780399590504

3. The Library Book
Susan Orlean, S&S, $28, 9781476740188

4. These Truths
Jill Lepore, Norton, $39.95, 9780393635249

5. How to Be a Good Creature
Sy Montgomery, Rebecca Green (Illus.), Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $20, 9780544938328

6. Gmorning, Gnight!
Lin-Manuel Miranda, Jonny Sun (Illus.), Random House, $22, 9781984854278

7. How to Change Your Mind
Michael Pollan, Penguin Press, $28, 9781594204227

8. Almost Everything
Anne Lamott, Riverhead, $20, 9780525537441

9. Cook Like a Pro
Ina Garten, Clarkson Potter, $35, 9780804187046

10. Leadership: In Turbulent Times
Doris Kearns Goodwin, S&S, $30, 9781476795928

11. 21 Lessons for the 21st Century
Yuval Noah Harari, Spiegel & Grau, $28, 9780525512172

12. Brief Answers to the Big Questions
Stephen Hawking, Bantam, $25, 9781984819192

13. Why Religion?: A Personal Story
Elaine Pagels, Ecco, $27.99, 9780062368539

14. Girl, Wash Your Face
Rachel Hollis, Thomas Nelson, $22.99, 9781400201655

15. The Patch
John McPhee, FSG, $26, 9780374229481

**TRADE PAPERBACK FICTION**

1. The Tattooist of Auschwitz
Heather Morris, Harper, $16.99, 9780062797155

2. Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine
Gail Honeyman, Penguin, $16, 9780735220690

3. Asymmetry
Lisa Halliday, S&S, $16, 9781501166785

4. Pachinko
Min Jin Lee, Grand Central, $15.99, 9781455563920

5. Less
Andrew Sean Greer, Back Bay, $15.99, 9780316316132

6. Milkman
Anna Burns, Graywolf Press, $16, 9781644450000

7. Crazy Rich Asians
Kevin Kwan, Anchor, $16, 9780525563761

8. All the Light We Cannot See
Anthony Doerr, Scribner, $17, 9781501173219

9. The Best American Short Stories 2018
Roxane Gay, Heidi Pitlor (Eds.), Mariner, $15.99, 9780544582941

10. Exit West
Mohsin Hamid, Riverhead, $16, 9780735212206

11. China Rich Girlfriend
Kevin Kwan, Anchor, $16.95, 9780804172066

12. The Wife Between Us
Greer Hendricks, Sarah Pekkanen, St. Martin's Griffin, $16.99, 9781250130945

13. One Day in December
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9. Animal Farm
George Orwell, Signet, $9.99, 9780451526342
10. The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
Douglas Adams, Del Rey, $7.99, 9780345391803

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED
1. The Snowy Nap
Jan Brett, G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers, $18.99, 9780399170737
2. The Snowy Day
Ezra Jack Keats, Viking Books for Young Readers, $19.99, 9780670012701
3. Make Way for Ducklings
Robert McCloskey, Puffin, $7.99, 9780140564341
4. The Wonky Donkey
Craig Smith, Katz Cowley (Illus.), Scholastic, $7.99, 9780545261241
5. Goodnight Moon
Margaret Wise Brown, Clement Hurd (Illus.), Harper, $8.99, 9780694003617
6. The Polar Express
Chris Van Allsburg, HMH Books for Young Readers, $19.99, 9780544580145
7. Little Blue Truck New
Alice Schertle, Jill McElmurry (Illus.), HMH Books for Young Readers, $7.99, 9780544568037
8. Pat the Bunny New
Dorothy Kunhardt, Golden Books, $9.99, 9780307120007
9. Dragons Love Tacos
Adam Rubin, Daniel Salmieri (Illus.), Dial, $16.99, 9780803736801
10. The Mitten New
Jan Brett, G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers, $7.99, 9780399231094

CHILDREN'S INTEREST
1. The Hate U Give
Angie Thomas, Balzer + Bray, $18.99, 9780062871350
2. Bridge of Clay
Markus Zusak, Knopf Books for Young Readers, $26, 9781984830159
3. Rosie Revere and the Raucous Riveters: The Questioneers Book #1
Andrea Beaty, David Roberts (Illus.), Abrams, $12.99, 9781419733604
4. Grenade New
Alan Gratz, Scholastic Press, $17.99, 9781338245691
5. Dear Evan Hansen
Val Emmich, et al., Poppy, $18.99, 9780316420235
6. Drama New
Raina Telgemeier, Graphix, $10.99, 9780545326995
Dylan Thuras, Rosemary Mosco, Joy Ang (Illus.), Workman, $19.95, 9781523503544
8. Sisters New
Raina Telgemeier, Graphix, $10.99, 9780545540605
9. Stories for Boys Who Dare to Be Different New
Ben Brooks, Quinton Wintor (Illus.), Running Press Kids, $16.99, 9780762465927
10. What If It's Us
Becky Albertalli, Adam Silvera, HarperTeen, $18.99, 9780062795250

CHILDREN'S SERIES TITLES
1. Dog Man: Brawl of the Wild
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9781338236576
2. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown
Jeff Kinney, Abrams, $13.95, 9781419727436
3. The Hive Queen (Wings of Fire, Book 12)
3. The Hive Queen (Wings of Fire, Book 12)  
Tui T. Sutherland, Scholastic Press, $16.99, 9781338214482
4. Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas  
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545581608
5. Dog Man  
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545581608
6. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone  
J.K. Rowling, Scholastic, $10.99, 9780590353427
7. Dog Man Unleashed New  
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935203
8. Dog Man: A Tale of Two Kitties New  
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935210
9. Crush (Berrybrook Middle School, #3)  
Svetlana Chmakova, JY, $11, 9780316363242
10. Dog Man and Cat Kid  
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935180

New - NOT on last weeks list